

- LUNCHEON-

DECEMBER 10th, 1947 12:30 P. M.

TOWN HALL CLUB, 123 West 43rd Street, New York City

\$2.00 - Tip, Tax Included

STRICTLY OFF THE RECORD

INFORMATION FROM THE TWO SPEAKERS AT THE LUNCHEON OF DECEMBER TENTH MAY BE USED FOR BACKGROUND MATERIAL BUT CANNOT BE QUOTED DIRECTLY.

MAJOR GENERAL LESLIE R. CROVES

DIRECTOR OF "MANHATTAN ENGINEERING PROJECT" (ATOM BOMB)

NOW HEAD OF THE NEW JOINT ARMY-NAVY SPECIAL WEAPON PROJECT (GUIDED MISSILES)

WILL SPEAK ON THE GENERAL SUBJECT OF

THE RUSSIANS AND THE ATOM BOMB

AND

COLONEL WILLIAM CONSODINE

SECOND IN COMMAND IN SECURITY FOR KEEPING THE SECRET OF THE

ATOMIC BOMB AND THEN PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR WHEN IT WAS MADE PUBLIC

"SECURITY AND PUBLICITY ON THE ATOM BOMB"

HOUSE COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE VOLUNTEERS FOR COMMITTEE, ACCORDING TO BILL CHAPLIN, WHO WILL BE HOST FOR THE COMING WEEK.

THE WHO'S WHO OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB FOR 1947 IS IN THE WORKS NOW. IT SHOULD BE PUBLISHED SOMETIME IN THE EARLY PART OF JANUARY.....

NEW YEAR'S EVE BRINGS A SPECIAL KIND OF CELEBRATION ALL OVER THE WORLD AND TIMES SQUARE IS POSSIBLY ONE OF THE MOST AMAZING SIGHTS WITH ITS BLACK SOLID MASSES OF PEOPLE CREETING THE NEW YEAR AS MERRILY AS THEY CAN.... THE CLUB IS SO SITUATED NOW THAT A TRADITIONAL "REVEILLON" SEEMS TO BE IN ORDER. THE FIRST HUNDRED RESERVATIONS RECEIVED WILL HAVE THE UNIQUE PRIVILEGE OF CELEBRATING THE NEW YEAR WITH COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS IN OUR OWN CLUB ROOMS OVER TIMES SQUARE. EXPENSE COVERAGE WILL BE FIVE DOLLARS PER PERSON AND A MEMBER CAN BRING ONE GUEST (NO MORE) AT THE SAME RATE. WITH AULD LANG SYNE SUNG IN A REAL CIRCLE OF OPC PEOPLE AND REFRESHMENTS TO BOOT, WHAT MORE COULD A MORTAL ASK ON THIS FESTIVE OCCASION?

SEND IN YOUR RESERVATIONS OR PHONE THEM, BUT CHECKS MUST BE RECEIVED IN ADVANCE AND SPECIAL PASSWORD TICKETS WILL BE MAILED

Jack Doorty has launched a new feature syndicate entitled "Affiliated Features" with offices at 1650 Broadway (Phone CI 7-6780) and in Paris at 21 Rue de Berri and in Hollywood at 2966 Belden Drive. Jack is a veteran of two wars and between the two, spent many years in Paris for the Chicago Tribune. Features will be based on individual surveys of newspapers and careful application of the results of the continuing study of newspaper reading.

Leo Iania writes of "The Children's Crusade" in the December issue of the United Nations World while Leonard Harris tells of "Christmas Traditions" in the same issue....

Walter Lippmann writing in his column "Today and Tomorrow" in the New York Herald Tribune says that the partition of Palestine was as inevitable as was the partition of Ireland and India and for the same reasons.

OPC Members who received awards in recognition of their war service, according to Bill Ormerod, of the British Information Service here, are Edward W. Beattie, Jr. of the United Press; Merrill F. Mueller of the NBC; Drew Middleton of the New York Times; Edward R. Murrow of CBS; upon whom was bestowed the medal of Honorary Officer in the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (civil division).

Relman Morin, head of the AP Washington Bureau, was one of the principal speakers at the Illinois Associated Press meeting in Chicago recently.

Paul C. Smith, editor and general manager of the San Francisco Chronicle, disclosed that he had been offered and turned down the job of assistant secretary of state in charge of information and cultural relations (post dropped by Benton).



A Service of Radio Corporation of America

'John M. O'Connell, Jr., editor of the Bangor Daily News was reelected to the Board of Directors of the Associated Press Managing Editors Association held in Detroit last month. At this meeting, the managing editors of the AP decided to continue the study of the AP launched last year, according to Lloyd Stratton, executive secretary of the AP.

Gene Currivan, Middle East correspondent for the New York Times, in a dispatch from Jerusalem dated December first reported that American women and children may be advised to leave Palestine --- in view of a potential crystallization of anti-American feeling throughout the territory.

Dickson Hartwell, in an article for the Nov. 30th issue of This Week magazine, wrote that scientists are doing magic down on the farm now--- making ten little pigs grow where seven did before.

OPC FOURSOME... Manuel Komroff, author member of the club, was interviewed on Mary Margaret McBride's program over WNBC last week. Komroff's publishers are Farrar and Strauss.

Larry LeSueur in his United Nations roundup broadcast over CBS on Saturday, Nov.29th at 6:45 P.M., reported the final vote on the partition of Palestine that afternoon at Lake Success, with all of the excitement involved.

William B. Ziff, president of the Ziff-Davis Publishing Company, announced the other day that Lewis Zara would be the new editor of his book division.

Whit Burnett, with John Pen, have just sold the screen rights of the novelette on John Burns which appeared in Story Magazine to 20th Century Fox.

Clare Boothe Luce is reported to be receiving \$85,000 for writing the screenplay of "The Screwtape Letters".

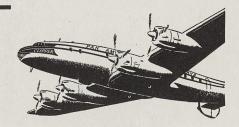
Fred Ferguson, president of NEA-Acme, announced recently that he is extending the leased wire news and telephoto wires for television service to Philadelphia and Chicago. Ferguson said that a television newsreel service would be ready shortly to augment the present spot news and pictures.

Henry Cassidy's broadcast on the NBC hookup over Morgan Beatty's "World News Round-Up" spot on Friday, Nov. 28th brought news from Paris of the increasing tension over the strikes in France.

Gideon Seymour, executive editor of the Minneapolis Star and Tribune, told Bob Brown of Editor and Publisher some time ago that when he was editor of the Star s editorial page, he wrote datelined editorials several days or several times a year from many cities in the United States when he was gathering background material. (This formula is now followed by many newspapers.)

THE WORLD OVER...

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George Sokolsky of the New York Sun was one of the principal speakers at the 48th semi-annual dinner of the Silurians, organization of former New York City newsmen held at the New York Athletic Club on November 18th.

Walter T. Ridder, Washington correspondent of the St. Paul Dispatch and Pioneer Press, is a member of the famous Ridder family of the newspaper world which owns Ridder Publications, Inc. with wide interests in the northwest.

Bob Trout, formerly of CBS and now with NBC, is taking a few months off from broadcasting to sail his small boat around the West Indies.... Aboard the "Tonga" is more fun than working in New York, says Trout.

At the Town Hall Morning lecture program this month, Henry C. Wolfe will speak on December 8th; Henry Shapiro on December 10th and Bennett Cerf on December 13th.

Reynolds Packard reports from Paris, where he is writing a novel, that, believe it or not, Paris is better than ever in many ways even though the French won't admit it and there aren't any b.....ls.

Thanksgiving morning.... From nine until one P.M., the Overseas Press Club rooms were given over to the next generation, who enjoyed themselves thoroughly--- what with marshmallows, pretzels, coco cola and mints. About seventy five members and their offspring crowded the windows of the club for a fine view of the parade. No casualties Some members present suggested that a line be put in the Bulletin to the effect that foreign correspondents seem to be human after all--- and a curious fact was ascertained most of our gang seem to have just two children... make of this figure what you will.

Lew Bowen of the Gallup Poll met Croswell Bowen of PM and their kids got together, too. Mildred Considine, wife of our President, brought her two children, as did Bill Chaplin with his two--- neither of the grownups had ever seen the parade before.

Joe Phillips in his column "Foreign Tides" in the Nov. 24th issue of Newsweek wrote that the future of French participation in European recovery will be decided by the current fight between Jouhaux and Frachon within the leadership group of organized labor.

J. P. McEvoy of the MacNaught syndicate, has returned from an assignment abroad and is staying in New York.

Arthur Sweetser is chairman of the Library Committee of the Woodrow Wilson Memorial Foundation at 45 East 65th St. The library is open for public reference and research on international problems.

Gordon Fraser has the news spot at six P.M. over the American Broadcasting Company's WJZ.



ATTENTION PLEASE SEND IN NEWS OF OUR FOLKS AROUND TOWN, THE COUNTRY AND THE WORLD.

Hal Lehrman's book "Russia's Europe" which has just been published by Appleton Century was the jackpot of the luncheon last week. The luncheon fell on the publication day and Sumner Welles had devoted his column of the morning to Hal's book. Nota Luxford won it.

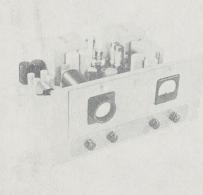
Bob Considine presided and at the end of the luncheon his parting words were that we, in this country at least, have and did have in this year of our Lord 1947 a great deal of freedom to be thankful for, besides everything else. The words were appropriate. Hal Tehrman introduced the speakers; and in introducing them, cited the fact that Russia had claimed 300 million dollars worth of reparations from Roumania of which she has already collected more than 200 millions. Glimpsed around were Allan Legg, editor of the Reader's Digest; Barbara Wace, new member from the Kemsley office here in New York; Leland Case, editor of the Rotarian magazine; Frank McCall, associate director of news at NBC; Harry Cykman of the American Broadcasting Co.

Foreign Correspondents write the events of the day and the trends of the times--- all well and good. And they speak well and eloquently of a situation in any given country. The other side of the picture is the guy on the political end in his country who decides one thing or another with any given international or internal situation.... and takes the consequences.

Grigore Niculescu-Buzesti, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Roumania, said that the present trials in his country take it back to the Middle Ages and that (although the reform of land had been widespread, they were to have become even more so) his country had been introducing great reforms along the road to democracy as we know it here. Now the whole democratic process has been thrown back two hundred years. Bujesti said that in 1945 there had been about 1,000 members of the Communist party there, a definitely inconsistent party in relation to the population. Now there has taken place the extermination of all opposition. He warned against any treaty on Austria to be made in London as that will admit all of the Russian coups detat in the Balkans--- the Roumanian experiment is a sort of testing out of the sense of justice of the rest of the world by Russia.

Alexander Cretzianu, former Ambassador to Turkey, took up the legal aspects of the occupation of Roumania by Russian troops. Under the Allied pact, troops were to occupy territory which was enemy territory in the first place and in the secnd there was a distinct time limit of 18 months occupation... both of which were violated in this instance. Therefore, Roumanian democrats would like to have this matter arbitrated before a tribune or before the United Nations. The only freedom left in Roumania at the moment is religious freedom, according to Cretzianu.

Hester E. Hensell, Editor.



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